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### **NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release**



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#### **STUDENTS SELECTED TO ATTEND THE 45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NAYI**

LINCOLN—Around 175 Nebraska high school juniors and seniors will grow their knowledge and passion for agriculture by serving as delegates at this year's 45<sup>th</sup> annual Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI), July 11-14, in Lincoln.

"NAYI began as a program to encourage youth to expand their knowledge of agriculture and over the years has expanded to also include agricultural career exploration," said NDA director Greg Ibach. "As the program celebrates its 45<sup>th</sup> year this year, it is the longest running program of its kind in the county."

NAYI will be held July 11-14 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus. During the five-day Institute, delegates participate in agriculture policy and group discussions, as well as learn about potential career paths available in the agricultural industry. Motivational speakers and a farm management program help delegates develop leadership potential and strengthen their pride in Nebraska agriculture. The week also provides delegates an opportunity to network with industry leaders, top-notch speakers and ag representatives.

Since its start in 1971, NAYI has shared the importance of agriculture with more than 5,500 youth from across the state. Delegates apply for and are selected to attend the Institute free of charge due to numerous donations from agricultural businesses, commodity groups and industry organizations.

The Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council (NAYC) helps organize several agricultural learning experiences for Nebraska youth including all NAYI events. NDA selects Council members who are passionate about agriculture and who want to teach young Nebraskans about the state's leading industry. This year's Council is comprised of 23 college-age men and women from across the state.

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To learn more about NAYC or NAYI, visit the NAYI website at [www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/](http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/nayi/). You can follow NAYI activities on Facebook by searching and liking the Nebraska Ag Youth Institute or following #NAYI16.

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For those receiving this release as an email, a list of the 2016 NAYI delegates and their hometowns is attached.

Photos of the delegates can be requested by emailing [christin.kamm@nebraska.gov](mailto:christin.kamm@nebraska.gov).

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